

Ad Hoc Community and Public Works Planning Committee (CAPP)
Alternative Energy Committee (AEC)
February 22, 2010

Members present: Burke Henry, Vice Chair; Carl Frederickson Mark Eggleston and Alan Fischlowitz.

Members absent: Larry Bean

Also present: Tom Banner

The Alternative Energy Committee meeting called to order by Vice Chair B. Henry on Monday, February 22, 2010 at 10:10 AM at the Town Hall. A quorum of the committee is present as reflected in the members listed above.

B. Henry has several emails committee members might be interested in.

Members need to get their own opinion on the noise issue at Vinalhaven. B. Henry has also informed Bob Owen, Consulting engineer and meteorologist about Vinalhaven and sent Bob his PowerPoint siting presentation. Bob suggested turbines could be placed on Amnicon Point, that would be considered a silent site but then turbines would interfere with the sunrise. Bob said there are ultra quiet turbines available and rural areas are more sensitive to noise because they are so quiet. Siting off shore would solve the problem of heavy equipment access.

Bob said Don Wickert, Director, Focus on Energy (FOE) called him. Don seems to think there is enough wind for a project on the Island.

Bob has suggested a change from his proposal last fall – he would like to deploy Sodar Site 2 at Mt Ashwabay in April, using a sound dampening approach and then set up the Sodar on the north end of the island in May or June

1. Discuss Grant Application Preparation.

B. Henry has received emails from Samantha Smart, Windustry project manager. The Bremer Foundation grant deadline is Feb 26th for consideration at their May 27th meeting. B. Henry has sent Samantha the proposal that was submitted and not awarded for her review and revision. Agreement to wait until the next granting cycle, which is the end of April, to submit a new application to the Otto Bremer Foundation.

A. Fischlowitz will call or meet with Rick Geisen at Bremer Bank.

B. Henry sent a letter to the Island Association asking if we could use their 501(c)(3) status in order to apply for a Wal-Mart Foundation grant. He will call Debbie Knopf, secretary, Island Association tonight.

B. Henry will talk to S. Smart to see if she could send a letter to the Minneapolis Foundation saying that Windustry will have the grant match.

S. Smart has put together a grant proposal for FOE. She has also sent an email regarding Environmental Impact studies. She contacted Horizon Wind who has recommended that we hire a consultant ASAP to do a site characterization study which will assess exactly what is needed for permitting.

B. Henry read S. Smart's FOE proposal.

S. Smart suggested that we get Request for Proposals (RFP) to do the Environmental Assessment out by mid-March and hire by mid-April. Windustry funds can be used as a match for the FOE grant.

If funds can be received from the Minneapolis Foundation and the FOE there will be money to conduct a yearlong wind and Sodar study at the north end. We need to talk to the Bad River Tribe about leasing the tower for another year.

B. Henry said S. Smart emailed a list of consultants. Committee members suggest JJR, Baird, and AECOM be added to the list.

C. Frederickson will contact Michelle Bissonette, vice president of HDR in regards to examples of RFPs and other information. Need the requirements that pertain to towns in WI. A. Fischlowitz will have JJR contact C. Frederickson also.

Discussion of the steps after the Environmental Assessment is completed. B. Henry suggested that committee members go to the American Wind Industry website and look at the siting handbook which goes through all the required steps.

Summary:

B. Henry will work with S. Smart on the FOE proposal.

C. Frederickson will work on the RFP for an Environmental Assessment.

B. Henry will update the Town Board tomorrow night.

2. Set next meeting and agenda.

To be set at a later time.

3. Adjourn.

Motion by A. Fischlowitz to adjourn, second, C. Frederickson. All in favor, all aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Minutes taken from recorder and respectfully submitted by Kathy Erickson, Clerical Assistant

Minutes approved as presented April 14, 2010